

CLAIMS

What is Claimed is:

1. A system that facilitates updating of firmware in an electronic device with a file system, the system comprising:
 - an electronic device comprising:
 - at least one of volatile and non-volatile memory;
 - loader software that supports a plurality of loaders;
 - update software that supports retrieving information for updating firmware in the electronic device; and
 - communication software that administers communicating the information for updating firmware from a server.
2. The system according to claim 1 wherein the system further comprises a driver software that communicates, to the updating software, information about retrieved information for updating firmware in the electronic device.
3. The system according to claim 1 wherein the server is an external system.
4. The system according to claim 1 wherein the server is a local file system.
5. The system according to claim 1 wherein the update software comprises:
 - loading software that retrieves updating information from the server;
 - updating software that applies the retrieved information for updating firmware in the electronic device;
 - security software that supports secure communication between the server and the electronic device;
 - setting software that sets values of data to indicate information about the information for updating firmware; and
 - memory management software that manages accessing and manipulating information in the memory.

6. The system according to claim 5 wherein the update software further comprises a reference comprising at least one parameter related to the information for updating firmware.

7. The system according to claim 6 wherein the at least one parameter comprises a 4-byte state flag.

8. The system according to claim 6 wherein the at least one parameter comprises an address referencing the information for updating firmware.

9. The system according to claim 6 wherein the at least one parameter comprises an address referencing a backup section.

10. The system according to claim 6 wherein the at least one parameter comprises a 4-byte CRC value.

11. The system according to claim 5 wherein the security software controls information in the electronic device, wherein the information indicates whether the firmware in the electronic device needs updating.

12. The system according to claim 6 wherein the security software utilizes the setting software to set the value of the at least one parameter.

13. The system according to claim 6 wherein the updating software uses the reference to determine whether the firmware in the electronic device needs updating.

14. The system according to claim 6 wherein the updating software uses the reference to determine the location of the information for updating firmware.

15. The system according to claim 1 wherein the update software utilizes a uniform resource locator (URL) to download information for updating firmware from the server.

16. A method for updating firmware in an electronic device with a file system, the method comprising:

downloading information for updating firmware in the electronic device from a server;

saving the downloaded information for updating firmware in the file system;

storing a location in the file system of the saved information for updating firmware to a memory reference; and

determining whether the firmware needs to be updated when the electronic device reboots.

17. The method according to claim 16 wherein, if it is determined that the firmware does not need updating, the method further comprises a normal start up of the electronic device.

18. The method according to claim 16 wherein, if it is determined that the firmware does need updating, the method further comprises:

retrieving the reference to the information for updating firmware from the memory; and

updating the firmware using the information for updating firmware.

19. The method according to claim 18 wherein the method further comprises communicating a confirmation of the updating of the firmware to the server.

20. The method according to claim 18 wherein the method further comprises testing the updated firmware for errors.

21. The method according to claim 20 wherein the method further comprises communicating any errors found to the server.

22. The method according to claim 16 wherein the electronic device retrieves status information from the information for updating firmware via the memory reference to determine whether the firmware needs to be updated using the information for updating firmware.